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CENTINEL



CENTRAL STATES
NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

CENTRAL STATES NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
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1964 - 1966

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The Wonderful World of Numismatics

This is the theme of the extravaganza which will be presented by the Central States Numismatic Society, when the Chicago Coin Club hosts its 23rd Annual Convention. The event will take place on April 23-25, 1965, at the Pick Congress Hotel, located on Chicago's famed Michigan Avenue.

Although all features of any major numismatic convention will be presented, special emphasis will be given to the educational aspect of our hobby. Prominent in this program will be the exhibit portion. They promise to present some of the outstanding numismatic items in existence, and will be attractively arranged in a room which will have a huge world globe as a focal point. In keeping with the emphasis placed on this aspect of the convention, the exhibit award medals are being struck by the French Mint especially for this occasion.

One of America's premier numismatists, Glenn Smedley, will direct the educational program. Now serv-

ing as the American Numismatic Association Public Relations Officer, Smedley has headed many educational forums and programs, and has served in practically every organizational post at one time or another. With this extremely wide background of experience to draw upon, the success of the educational program is an assured fact.

As usual, the bourse will have the leading coin dealers of the country, with a total of 120 displaying their wares and engaging in the buying and selling of numismatic material. There will also be an auction of many choice numismatic specimens, with the auction being conducted by an experienced and well-known auctioneer.

Philip J. More is Executive Chairman for the convention. His committee chairmen are: Michael Dolnick and Jim Grebinger, vice chairmen; Dick Peterson, bourse; Tom Nolan, exhibits; Howard Eisenberg, publicity; Arlie Slabaugh, program; and Marjorie Baker, women's activities.



Shown at the September interim meeting of the Central States Board of Governors, are these hard working committee members who gave a report on Chicago's plans for the April convention. From left to right are, CSNS governors Phil More and Mike Dolnick, Executive Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively, and Dick Peterson, CSNS Life Member, serving as Bourse Chairman.

EDITORIAL

This is your first *Centinel* issue featuring the "new look." Through the recommendations of your Editor, and with a blanket endorsement from your Board of Governors, this issue has become a reality.

The newly designed cover, by artist James A. McMahon of Centralia, Missouri, depicts a frontier sentinel looking forward to what lies ahead, thus being able to counsel and guide his people as to what course to follow. In the theme of the Missouri Commemorative half dollar, artist McMahon has given us a symbol which ties together our common interests in numismatics, and our desire to be a progressive, forward looking and alert organization.

Inside the cover you will find a list of the officers of our Society, and rates at which advertising will be solicited and sold for future issues. The reverse side of the cover will be used for addressing and mailing each issue to you.

Inside the *Centinel*, we are going to a two column format, which will enhance the appearance, and will provide for greater readability. We will carry all possible news pertaining to the activities of our member clubs, and solicit any pictures, news releases, etc., which may be available from time to time. We will publish articles submitted by our members, and will make every effort to keep you posted on current activities affecting the numismatic scene.

Past issues of the *Centinel* have been edited in one location, printed in another, and shipped to still another location for addressing, stuffing and mailing. For the first time, this issue has been edited, printed and mailed from one location. We believe it to be a decidedly advantageous arrangement, and believe we can provide you with a far better, and more interesting publication.

Our organization covers thirteen states, and our basic contact with each other has been mainly through our yearly conventions. We need a bridge to span the gap lying between, and it is the fondest hope of your officials, that this "new looking" *Centinel* will serve that purpose. Much thought and planning, a great deal of work, and considerable expense lies behind these lines you read. The wisdom and success of this action can only be determined by your reactions. We hope they are favorable, and we feel certain they will be so.

As we face the challenges of the events of our lives, we find the need for inspiration, guidance, patience and understanding. As this new venture begins, I find those needs filled through my association and friendship with a person whose life is seemingly dedicated to such fulfillment for others. As each painstaking detail has been resolved, as each milestone has been passed, my keenest desire was that Brad would be pleased. So, it is to Elston G. Bradfield, our former editor, that I dedicate this first issue of the revised Centinel.

Cab

Presenting . . .

Our President

On September 12, the C.S.N.S. Officers held their Interim meeting at the Pere Marquette Hotel, Peoria, Illinois. Accepting an invitation of the Peoria District Coin Club to hold our meeting there. They are to host the 1967 Central States Numismatic Convention.

As far as I know, no C.S.N.S. group has ever been so Royally treated as we were. Not only did the hotel roll out the Red Carpet for us, we were all treated to a smorgasbord dinner as guests of the Peoria District Coin Club. Also, most of us visited their local Coin Show held the same weekend.

After being shown the excellent facilities of the hotel, the meeting was called to order and a 37 item agenda was discussed, and action was taken on many subjects for the good of the Society.

Several of the most important items were—

Ray Jandas' fine report on the Kansas City Convention was accepted with thanks. And he presented a \$2,217.05 check to C.S.N.S. as their 50 per cent share of the convention profits. For this we were grateful.

It was voted by the officers to purchase 120 steel deep coin cases, and 20 shippers. C.S.N.S. now owns 20 steel cases, and 3 shippers, total 144 cases. It was the opinion of the majority, due to the C.S.N.S. bank balance, that we delay the purchase of 156 more cases needed, and shippers, until after the '65 Chicago convention.

Phil More, General Chairman of the 1965 Chicago Convention, gave an inspiring report on the plans for a large and wonderful numismatic event.

Editor Atkins, outlined plans for the *Centinel*. Including the new look, and important changes. All members are urged to be a contributor by submitting numismatic articles, or other worthwhile news.

The President was given authority to appoint State Representatives of the six states that does not have a member on the C.S.N.S. Board of

Governors. Iowa, Kentucky, Minnesota, Nebraska, North and South Dakota. I have always felt that each of our 13 States should be represented.

All officers were given a list of names of the few delinquent members in their respective states to help our Secretary collect these dues. We don't want to lose them.

Membership Drive: S L O G A N:
"Every member sign a new member."
An organization of the scope which covers the 13 Central States area should have at least 2,500 members. Remember, in number there is strength. And that an organization worth belonging to, is worth working for. Let's keep C.S.N.S. the second largest Numismatic Organization. Keep in mind, our aim is to give you more for your \$2 per year dues. Other points that will benefit C.S.N.S. will unfold in the future.

With this issue begins the Fall and Winter season. And with the long evenings and extra time—we hope many of you will start planning your exhibits for the 1965 C.S.N.S. Chicago Convention. I am sure you would like to win one of the special Medals designed for exhibit winners. This promises to be one of the largest Central States Numismatic Conventions ever held.

Any suggestions from our affiliated Clubs or individual Members, for the improvement of our Organization will be appreciated and considered.

If your President, or any of your C.S.N.S. Officers can be of assistance to you, kindly contact us.

Sincerely,
Leo G. Terry

Plated Coins Illegal

Dr. Leland Howard has declared that gold plated United States coins are illegal under the provisions of our "Gold Regulations." Thus, the Director, Office of Domestic Gold and Silver Operations, has thrown the proverbial monkey wrench into the recent practice of gold plating the 1964 half dollars. Accordingly, under the authority granted by these regulations, gold plated coins are subject to seizure and forfeiture.

SECRETARY OLSON ASKS FOR ACTION

Each October brings the Secretary his greatest worry, how many members are going to forfeit their memberships by not paying current dues by the end of the month. The majority who do not renew, are one year members whose interest lapsed for one reason or another. It will be appreciated if our members write us, any of the officers or the editor, to tell us what they expect from CSNS. There is always room in the *Centinel* for constructive criticism, and for bouquets too, if deserved.

There have been more changes of address, about 30 the last two months, than ever before. If it is not convenient to write us direct, please notify the post office of the change, especially if a box number is changed.

Beginning with the October issue, you will receive the *Centinel* in a new format. It will be printed and mailed from Centralia, Missouri. Be sure to write Cab Atkins, the Editor, and let him know how you like it. Tell him too, what you want to read in the

Centinel. A quarterly publication has stiff competition from weekly, bi-weekly, and monthly papers and magazines.

Especially do we want to hear from club presidents and secretaries about their doings. Our conventions should have a "Club Class" of exhibits of stationery, membership cards, flyers, publications, medals or tokens, so that officials will be given credit for good work, and others can pick up good ideas for their own groups.

So, send the secretary your 1964-1965 dues if still unpaid, and help keep his address list up to date.

Paul E. Olson, Sec'y-Treas.

SAGA OF THE SUPER SALESMAN

—Michael M. Dolnick

The collector who is a challenge to the seller is the fellow who, when asked what he collects, says, "Just about everything." The following hypothetical conversation should serve as a guide as to how to proceed when confronted with an advanced collector who can't be specific about what he is interested in.

The seller shows the collector a beat-up copper coin and says, "I have here a most unusual item, it's a 20 pilaf of Kaluchi."

When the collector shows a mild interest, you say, "This is not the common variety; it's the rare type with the crescent." If there is a flicker of interest, you bore in with more fascinating data.

"The crescent type 20 pilaf was supposed to be given favorites of the Sultan whenever one bore him a son. Since the Sultan Hashmark had only 612 sons, it is believed that only 612 of this variety were minted."

By now you should have the collector's attention. "Do you see this sharp dent on the edge? Those are the tooth marks of the baby prince who used the coin instead of a teething ring. The refugee from Kaluchi who sold this coin to me believes that these are the teeth marks of Harshmark II, the crown prince who succeeded his father; and I am inclined to believe him as he was a member



Ray Janda, right, Central States 1st Vice President, and co-chairman of the 22nd annual convention held in Kansas City, presents President Leo Terry with a check representing Central States' share of the proceeds of that convention. Judging from the pleased looks, it must have been for a substantial amount.

of the royal household. This former chamberlain to the Sultan had the responsibility of supervising the royal coin collection and he was discharged for gross negligence when he failed to order his 1964 proof sets on time forcing the Sultan to pay a premium. I hope to get some of the Sultan's 1964 proof set business myself."

If the collector is still listening to your story he will next ask what the price of the coin is.

"How can you put an actual price on a rarity such as this. To my best knowledge the last time one of these was sold was in the Schimmelpfennig auction in Vienna in 1940 when it sold for 70 gulden. Normally I would sell this coin for \$35, but it should really be owned by a genuine numismatist like yourself — therefore, you can have it for \$10." "Sold! let me know if you pick up another since I like to display both obverse and reverse."

This is the end of this imaginary sales presentation. Actually, I feel a kinship to the collector who bought the coin. I am quite sure I have coins in my collection that were bought as the result of similar kinds of sales presentations.

To conclude my message, I would like to state that if you have any unusual numismatic items that no one will buy, try me. I won't promise that I'll buy the items, but I'll be glad to listen to your story.

Vogel Johnson, CSNS No. 1317, 5820 Madison St., Lincoln, Nebraska, is the latest member of our group to have passed on from the scene. Word has been received from his close personal friend, W. H. Stalons, Jr., of our loss.

Mr. Johnson was known for his personal interest in those who collected coins and medals, and befriended many to whom he had the opportunity to help in their chosen field.

He is survived by his wife and a son, Melvin.

The Magic of Metal

The current (or should we say past) coin shortage has brought forth many proposals for changing the metallic content of our coins, especially those made basically of silver. Undoubtedly many such proposals were motivated by personal gain, some simply by "crackpots," and some as a genuine interest in offering a solution to the vexing problem.

Few "old-timers," like the one writing this, had, or have, any desire to see our silver coins changed. However, it is quite difficult to really offer a reason numismatically in opposition to such a change, even though economists might be able to supply many good reasons, strictly from an economic standpoint.

I'm afraid the magic of metal has enchanted us to the extent that we believe that all cents should be a copper alloy, all nickels a nickel alloy, and our dimes, quarters, halves and dollars a silver alloy. I know we do not attach significance to the actual metallic content of the coins we covet, otherwise our sense of values would rise in a ratio of the preciousness of the metal.

We draw no lines of preference numismatically between steel and copper alloy cents, between silver and nickel three-cent pieces, nor would we between silver and another metal should it be substituted for the silver in our coins.

I'd dislike intensely any action to discontinue the use of silver in those coins in which it is now used. In analyzing such dislikes however, I find that numismatically it is simply because I too have succumbed to the magic of metal. From the standpoint of economics, I can only say that if such a change were near, overnight I will probably become one of the most expert of economists known to be in captivity! So, magic or no magic, I vote to simply let 'em alone.

Now that Junior has gone to college, about the only five dollar bill Dad sees anymore, is the one for Junior's laundry.

PAST PRESIDENT EPPS TO DO HISTORICAL SERIES ON C. S. N. S.

We had a fine interim meeting in Peoria, Illinois, in September. Our new President was in fine fettle, and we have a crew working on the 1965 Chicago Convention. Headed by Phil More, and assisted by Dick Peterson and Mike Dolnick, they are strictly all business. Cross off the dates now for next April 23-25, and make plans to be there.

Well, they gave me a new job, and here I was patting myself on the back, that all I had to do as Custodian of Central States Properties was to keep an up-to-date inventory on same. Beginning in the January 1965 *Centinel*, will be a series of historical notes on the Central States Numismatic Society, since its formulation in 1939.

I never considered myself a writer, but having accepted the appointive post of Historian, I'm willing to give it a try. I'd be delighted to receive any news from the "old timers" which should go into the first installment.

Best wishes to all members.

Dr. F. Stevens Epps,
CSNS LM 70

KANSAS CITY CLUB MAKES \$2000 GIFT

The Heart of America Numismatic Association became the FIRST Coin Club in America to join the ranks of several individuals when at the October meeting it was decided to give to the American Numismatic Association's Building Fund the sum of \$2,000.

There are few clubs that rank with as many firsts as H.A.N.A., and the local club officials feel proud of this fact. The organization, which is now in its thirty-first year, and also practically 30 years a corporate member of the American Numismatic Association, has the distinction of holding one of its "low" numbers, that being 4514.

Many things have happened to the club since a group of interested col-

lectors gathered in the home of Mr. T. E. Rowald on a cold night in February of 1934 and formed The Heart of America Numismatic Association. Of the original 13 members who braved the chill air of that historic night, we still have five living members who, incidentally, have since been given "Life" memberships to the organization in appreciation for their deeds. The club has continued to grow along with the years and at one time boasted of more than 600 members. Today the membership stands in the vicinity of 250 and most of the members truly numismatists.

During the growth of the club came many distinctions:

—Many members being Life members of A.N.A.

—Many 25-year members of A.N.A.

—Several members of Regional Organization — The Central States Numismatic Society.

—Local members who have held offices of CSNS include — Ray O. Lefman, President and Vice President and now on the Board of Governors; Ray M. Janda, Vice President and Board of Governors; Dick Johnson, John Maxim and Cab Atkins on the Board of Governors.

—Been host to the Central States Convention twice.

—Has held six consecutive successful annual Coin Shows.

—Winner of National Coin Week First Place—1957 Class "A." And now, placing "FIRST" among the clubs to give such a sizable amount to such a worthy cause. Also, the club may be counted as a large contributor toward the replacing of the Collection stolen from the Truman Library.

The Heart of America Numismatic Association is proud of its Numismatic record and shall continue to be among the leading clubs of the nation. The members pledge their support of all worthy Numismatic ventures of the hobby.

May we invite other clubs to follow our pattern in giving to this cause for a National Home.

Canadian Mint Sets

Our neighbors to the north have been smitten by the force of numismatics, and as a direct result, the Canadian Mint has altered some of its past practices with respect to the ordering and furnishing of mint, or proof like sets.

A separate department, Coins Uncirculated, has been established to handle the sales of mint sets, and a limit has been placed on the number of sets an individual may purchase. An additional change is the discontinuance of the sale of proof like dollars. They will be available only in the mint sets.

Orders for the 1965 mint sets, consisting of one coin of each denomination from one cent through the dollar, will be accepted January 1, 1965, and sales will continue as long as the mint has enough capacity to produce them. The sets may be purchased in quantities of one, three, or five, the price being \$4 per set in Canadian funds.

Those wishing to order sets must remit payment in the form of a money order, bank draft or certified check payable in CANADIAN DOLLARS to the Receiver General of Canada. Uncertified checks and remittances for incorrect amounts will be returned to the sender.

Address all orders to Coins Uncirculated, Post Office Box 470, Ottawa 2, Ontario, Canada.

1965 MINT SETS A POSSIBILITY

With it being an established fact that coinage into 1965 may bear the 1964 date, what can the collector of United States coins look for in 1965?

It is inconceivable that the United States Mint would arbitrarily continue to use the 1964 date after the current coin shortage is a matter of history. Of course, when such will be the case is anyone's guess, but judging from the diminishing publicity concerning the shortage, the impression is that it is being solved in good order.

In substituting rationality for emotion, and strictly doing a little guess-

ing, it appears likely that coins bearing the 1965 date might be coming from our mints by mid-1965. The fiscal year ends June 30, and if all is well, it is hard to believe our good friend, Eva Adams, will give orders to continue the 1964 date into another fiscal year.

All of which is strictly conjecture, but it is most likely that 1965 will not only bring forth coins bearing that date, but that Mint Sets will also be made available on a rationed basis. If you are looking for 1965 Proof Sets, forget it! You'll be extremely fortunate if just these predictions come to pass.

OVERTON TO CONDUCT A.N.A. AUCTION

The A.N.A. board of governors has named Al Overton of Pueblo, Colorado, to handle the Houston convention auction next year. Overton is widely known as a successful coin dealer and auctioneer, and he handled the auction at the Denver convention in 1963. This auction will include material donated to the national home and headquarters fund, and Overton plans to make a substantial donation of his time, know-how and auction facilities to make the Houston auction one of the largest and the best possible.

An important feature will be the inclusion of the growing number of valuable collector's items being donated to the A.N.A. drive to raise \$250,000 for its new home. Many collectors prefer to donate duplicates and other items from their collections to this drive because of the income tax advantage and resultant saving. Such gifts are income tax deductible for their present fair market value regardless of their original cost. For example, suppose you once bought a coin for \$10, but today it is worth \$100. You give it outright to the A.N.A. and deduct \$100 as a charitable and educational gift in your income tax return. If you sold the coin, you would be taxed on your gain of \$90; but by giving it to A.N.A., which is a tax exempt organization, you can deduct its present value of

\$100 and let the A.N.A. realize the gain, tax free.

Arrangements have been made between the A.N.A. executive secretary's office in Phoenix and Overton whereby collectors, if they wish, may send donations of valuable numismatic items for the auction direct to Al Overton. The executive secretary's office will record each gift item and issue a receipt to the donor. All A.N.A. personnel that handles gifts or money of the Association, including Al Overton, are bonded. Correspondence concerning either donations or regular consignments for the auction should be sent to Al Overton, Colorado Bldg., Pueblo, Colo., with copies concerning donated material to Executive Secretary Don Sherer, 3520 N. 7th St., Phoenix, Ariz. 85014.

MORE 1964 HALVES

Reports from around the nation indicate that production of the 1964 half dollar is beginning to finally satisfy the extremely unusual demand for them.

Having been removed from circulation as fast as they could be produced, they now appear to be finally filling the void which existed, and it is not unusual to receive them in change. This is the one coin which seemed to capture the fancy of the general public, and it is rare indeed to find a single person who has not saved at least a single specimen.

Another huge market for the coin has been in the manufacture of coin jewelry. Hundreds of thousand have found their way into tie clasps, key rings and desk ornaments. This market too, has become saturated supply wise, and another demand has lessened.

With some 150,000,000 already minted, and with them being turned out at the rate of slightly less than one million per day, it will soon likely be one of the most numerous of our coins. Regardless of what the status may be today, with the likelihood that they will be minted for the next 25 years, it is impossible to conceive any future demand which will not be fully and quickly satisfied.

The Chatter Box

Our Secretary's message mentions organizational losses because of non-payment of dues. This is a serious menace to any group such as ours, so if you are one of those who has let time slip by, please send your remittance at once to Paul E. Olson, 2538 Taylor St. N. E., Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418.

Events of the past year has created an unusual interest in foreign coinage, and apparently a slight loss of interest in United States coinage. However, don't let this apparent "trend" fool you — there is a wealth of numismatic material of our own country. Sooner or later the use of the 1964 date will cease, and watch the frantic rush for the first coins bearing a new date. Just don't sell our coinage short — numismatically, it's here to stay.

Have you tried to complete a set of the 1963 \$1 Federal Reserve notes by taking them from circulation? If not, I think you will find it quite a challenge, considering that only 12 are required. In nearly two years of looking, I still have found only eight different.

One night recently, I drove to a community some 200 miles distant to speak before a Rotary meeting about my experience of serving on the 1964 Assay Commission. For six consecutive weekends I've traveled to points all the way from Lincoln, Nebraska to Norman, Oklahoma, and interspersed between these activities, I've edited this publication, and my own monthly effort which runs 16 pages. In my spare time, I work at being a full time employee of the manufacturing firm who has put up with me for 29 years. Oh for the joys of a vacation without any sort of responsibilities!

Our 23rd Annual Convention may well be the biggest and best we've ever held. It will be in the Pick Congress Hotel in Chicago, and I suggest that you make your reservations early to avoid the rush.

KANSAS CITY BIDS FOR A.N.A. HOME AND HEADQUARTERS

October 27, 1964, could easily go down as a very important date to the numismatists of the Kansas City area. Mr. Charles M. Johnson, Chairman of the Building Site Committee, visited this area to inspect the possibilities of placing the National Home and Headquarters for the American Numismatic Association. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Board of Governors of ANA and has been in full charge of the drive to secure a Home and Headquarters for the ANA for the past few years.

Now that the drive has a good start and the donations are coming in to the cause, the Board has decided that the awarding of the site will take place at the next Board of Governors Interim meeting. This shall be sometime after the deadline of February 1, 1965. All cities wishing to be considered for this honor must have their invitation in by the deadline time. The Heart of America Numismatic Association, through the efforts of Ray O. Lefman, presented to the ANA during convention meetings in Cleveland last August, the invitation to consider Kansas City.

Mr. Lefman, who is a member of the Plans Committee, has been working on this project for the past two years with the local City Officials and Officials of the Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City. The Plans Committee is a group of 15 ANA members who started the ball rolling toward this project.

Mr. Johnson was met at the airport by Mr. Lefman, representing the Heart of America Numismatic Association, Mrs. J. D. Robins, a City Councilman and representing the Mayor's office, and Mr. Kenneth Krakauer, President of the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.

Following his arrival, he was escorted to the Hotel Muehlbach where a luncheon had been planned by the Chamber of Commerce, and those attending were Executives of the Chamber, representatives of the Fed-

eral Urban Renewal Authority Office, Mr. Byron Shutz of the Herbert Jones Realty Co. of Kansas City and Mr. Lefman.

Following the luncheon, an hour and 45 minutes was spent discussing with Mr. Johnson *WHY* Kansas City needs this National Headquarters and *WHY* the American Numismatic Association should place the Headquarters in Kansas City. Mr. Johnson very capably explained to the group what the ANA wants and also what advantages there would be to the locality to have such a headquarters. His explanation about the Museum (coin), the Library, the Educational films and slides, the Secretary's office, the Editor's office, the Advertising Manager's office and other advantages were very thorough and generally accepted by those present.

Following this meeting and discussion, the group left the hotel and visited several sites which had been selected by the local group for Mr. Johnson's inspection.

After touring the city for a couple of hours, he was taken to his hotel for a couple hours rest and then met with several of the members of the local club for dinner. Those attending this meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Ray M. Janda, Mr. Allison Lowe, Mr. John Maxim, President of HANA, and Mr. and Mrs. Ray O. Lefman. Following this meeting, which lasted three hours, Mr. Johnson was escorted by automobile around the downtown area by Mr. Lowe and then taken to his hotel. He left Kansas City the following day bound for Oklahoma City to inspect the offers there. Before coming to Kansas City he had spent a day in Wichita inspecting their offers.

Other members of the committee who will have the final say have been invited to Kansas City and look over what we have to offer and we are hoping that they will be here for the sixth Midwest Coin Show being held

Thanksgiving weekend. Regardless, whether we get this prized asset to the collecting fraternity, here in Kansas City, lets all support this project for a National Home. If you are a member of ANA it is your privilege to support such a project and give generously; if you are not a member, now is the time to join. If this is not your feelings, the least any person interested in Numismatics could do is contribute to such a worthy project. Pick up one of the envelopes at the Building Site table at the Midwest Show and send in your contribution. It's tax deductible.

A.N.A. Convention Date

Correct dates for the A.N.A. 74th anniversary convention are August 25 through 28, 1965. Some material, including the Shamrock-Hilton Hotel registration cards, listed the convention as beginning on August 24. "This was our error," said General Chairman A. I. Martin, "which was brought about by consulting the wrong calendar way back in 1963. However, as you well know, there are always many pre-convention activities and an early arrival isn't a bad idea. We trust the error will not

cause any confusion or trouble."

All dealers who wish to apply for bourse space and have not done so already should write immediately for an official application. Martin has these forms ready—write to him—not to the Phoenix office. *Do not* send a deposit, please, until you receive the official application form. Just write to A. I. Martin, general chairman, 6207 Chevy Chase Drive, Houston, Texas 77027 and request a bourse application form.

All dealers are advised that deadline for *returning* an official application is January 15, 1965. Bourse dealers will be selected on the basis of a questionnaire, and the successful applicants will be notified in February.

The registration chairman is making preparations for pre-convention registration. Watch the various numismatic publications for notice about this and be sure to take advantage of it. Advance registration saves time for you and insures you of getting in on the activities you want.

"We in Houston are working hard at home base. How about YOU spreading the good word in your area?" says Chairman Martin.



Officers and Governors attending the interim board meeting in Peoria are, left to right in back row: Phil More, Erv Gerber, C. A. M. Smith, Ray Lefman, George Hatie, John Maxim and C. H. Clark. Front row, left to right are: Dr. F. S. Epps, Paul Olson, Leo Terry, Ray Janda, Mike Dolnick, and Cab Atkins.

NATIONAL COIN WEEK – 1965

"GOOD WILL THRU NUMISMATICS"

Are you getting mad at the way our hobby is being cussed and discussed by the newspapers, magazines, and even some of our government people? Are you annoyed when you check the change you just received from a cashier, and hear the accusing voice of a stranger say, "Oh, so you are one of those!" Well, griping won't help, so let's do something about it.

Thousands of people attend our coin shows each year, but most of these people are interested in coins already. They have the opportunity to see our exhibits and realize that our hobby is educational. But it is the others who talk the loudest. So, if they will not come to us, then we must go to them. Let's put educational numismatic exhibits in stores, libraries, banks and many other locations, right under the noses of the public.

Coin collecting is a "peoples' hobby." National Coin Week is a "peoples' project," started by Julius Guttag of New York in 1924. The American Numismatic Association now sponsors the event each year, and will furnish you with signs for your exhibits. It gives awards to winners of first, second and third place in three classes for A.N.A. clubs, and there is an individual class where A.N.A. members may compete. The minimum age for junior members in the A.N.A. is 17, but we have many good collectors who have not reached that age. Therefore, any junior member of an A.N.A. club or association may enter individual competition in National Coin Week, if his scrapbook report is accompanied by a letter from the president or secretary of that club stating he is a member in good standing, his membership number and the A.N.A. number of the club. Every NCW contestant, whether a winner or not, will receive an A.N.A. participation certificate.

National Coin Week for 1965 will

be April 24 through May 1. The theme is "Good Will Through Numismatics." Regardless of your political affiliation, you know that these words of the late John F. Kennedy will go down in history: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country." Here is your chance to put that philosophy into practice. Good will through numismatics covers a wide field. It can mean good will for you, your club and the A.N.A. when you do something constructive in your own community. It can also mean international good will. Let's discuss international good will now because of the time element involved.

The A.N.A. has members in 62 countries other than the United States. Letters have been sent to these members, inviting them to join us in National Coin Week by showing exhibits in their own communities. It is possible that, if enough interest is shown by collectors in other countries, our National Coin Week could develop into an "International Numismatic Week."

But here are a few hints to members here in the States. Since 1956 we have had a People-to-People program to encourage us to write to those in other countries. Both President Eisenhower and the late President Kennedy felt that this was a very important project. If you are interested, write to: People-to-People, 2401 Grand Ave., Kansas City, Mo. 64108. Give your name, address, age, special hobbies and enclose a self-addressed and stamped envelope. The Parker Pen Co. is conducting an "International Penfriend Program" at the New York World's Fair, using the theme "Peace through Understanding through Writing." Visitors are asked to fill out an application with name, address, age, sex, area, and language wanted. Moments after this information is fed into a giant machine, out comes a name and address of a person suitable for the

applicant to write. Those who do not visit the fair may make application to: Parker Pen Company, Janesville, Wisconsin.

In writing of coins brought back from other countries by service men and tourists, R. S. Yeoman makes this statement in his book *A Catalog of Modern World Coins*: "Look upon this as a sort of challenge, or opportunity to learn about the countries of their origin, the denominations, relative monetary values and other facts of history, government, rulers, and geography which they represent."

We claim that numismatics is historical and educational. During NCW you are not showing to coin collectors only, so include historical and educational information in your exhibits by using pictures, a small flag, and other items of interest along with coins, paper money and medals. Working with people in other countries toward exhibits for NCW can prove interesting, and you may request a certificate of participation for them also, if they help obtain the material for you and tell you something useful about the people, emblems and money of their country.

You will be doing several things at the same time. You will be making new friends. You will be learning, teaching others by passing along what you learn through information you place in your exhibit. You will be earning respect for the A. N. A. and our hobby, both here and in other countries. You will be helping our own country by being a good will ambassador. It is a long goal to shoot for but maybe—just maybe—some nonnumismatic publication will print something nice about our hobby.

It is a challenge to each of us: the big shots and the little pistols; the wheelers and the dealers; the specialist and the change checker. The A. N. A. has approved some new ideas, so let's get with it. All clubs which submit official reports with evidence of actual participation, and all those entering individual competition and submitting a report for National Coin Week, will have their names published in *The Numismatist*

after the close of NCW 1965. Will your name or your club's name be in that list?

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How Many Collectors?

Speculations as to the number of collectors in the United States seems to center around the figure of eight or nine million. This could be reasonably accurate, but if one is speaking of numismatics, even using the word loosely, it is extremely doubtful if there are as many as half a million.

For a reasonable test of this theory, see how many friends or casual acquaintances are participating in the hobby of numismatics, yet do not subscribe to one or more publications covering this hobby. It is most likely that the results will be zero, because anyone with any semblance of real interest, finds that unless they keep current with happenings in the numismatic world, they are soon too far out of phase to continue and maintain an active interest.

For the second step, make a few calculations on the number of copies being distributed in paid circulation, by the major numismatic publications. All added together, and making no allowance for duplicity in subscribers, can anyone believe the total would exceed half a million?

To return to the original premise, there may be eight or nine million collectors in the United States, but if everyone who saves old coins and 1964 half dollars is included within this category, there are possibly more nearly 150 million. So, the record needs to be changed and a different tune played. If one speaks of numismatics, let's not kid ourselves; and likewise, if one speaks of collectors, let's not kid ourselves on that score either.

What's your opinion?

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